# Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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## Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

### National report submitted by New Zealand

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to action 20 of the action plan set out in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The plan stipulates that States parties submit regular reports on their implementation of the action plan, and of article VI, paragraph 4 (c), of the 1995 decision entitled "Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament", as well as the practical steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, recalling also the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996.

2. New Zealand considers that transparency is a principle to which all States (nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States alike) should adhere because it helps to reinforce compliance with Treaty obligations. The more that is known about how States implement their Treaty commitments, the greater the level of international trust in the regime. In this spirit, New Zealand has consistently lodged transparency reports since the 2000 Review Conference and, in the light of action 20, will continue to do so.

3. Progress on nuclear disarmament is a high priority for the Government of New Zealand and we pursue this in all disarmament-related forums. The Government's decision to reinstate the Cabinet Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control reflects the priority New Zealand places on these issues. New Zealand is a strong supporter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and its three pillars. We are dedicated to achieving a world free of nuclear weapons and continue to encourage national, regional and global efforts to realize this goal.

4. New Zealand co-sponsored General Assembly resolution 71/258, mandating negotiations on a nuclear weapon prohibition treaty at the United Nations in New York in 2017. New Zealand was one of the vice-presidents in negotiations on the treaty and was one of the first countries to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in September 2017. New Zealand is looking at early ratification of the Treaty, so that we contribute to its early entry into force. We see the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as complementing and strengthening the obligations contained in the Non-Proliferation Treaty and as a contribution to the implementation of article VI of the latter Treaty.

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5. New Zealand has been a strong supporter of efforts undertaken to increase awareness of the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. New Zealand remains gravely concerned about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and continues to believe that the only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons are never used again is through their total elimination, including through the full implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. We engaged actively in the three international conferences on this issue held since 2013 in Norway, Mexico and Austria and sought to ensure that any outcome to the 2015 Review Conference would reflect the humanitarian initiative. New Zealand also co-sponsored General Assembly resolution 72/30, on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. New Zealand co-sponsored the paper entitled "The humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons" (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.9), which was submitted to the 2018 Preparatory Committee by a group of more than 20 States.

6. New Zealand is an active member of the New Agenda Coalition[1] to promote nuclear disarmament. New Zealand is currently the coordinator of that coalition and will be coordinating its policy positions in the lead-up to the meeting of the Preparatory Committee. New Zealand has submitted one working paper on behalf of the Coalition to the 2018 Preparatory Committee entitled "Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: reiterating the urgency of its implementation" (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.13). The paper emphasizes that the commitments made and undertakings given at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences represent what States parties to the Treaty have agreed as necessary for implementation of the nuclear disarmament obligation in article VI. The paper reiterates that States parties remain accountable for their implementation of these agreed disarmament measures and highlights the responsibility of all States parties to the Treaty to move forward with urgency in implementing their article VI obligations and commitments in order to maintain the good standing of the Treaty and its review process.

7. The Coalition also sponsors an annual General Assembly resolution entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments". In its resolution 72/39, the Assembly highlighted the central role of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and its binding nature at all times and in all circumstances. The Assembly called on all States parties to the Treaty to comply fully with all decisions, resolutions and commitments made at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences, and called upon Member States to continue to support efforts to identify, elaborate and negotiate effective legally binding measures for nuclear disarmament.

8. New Zealand also works with Chile, Malaysia, Nigeria, Sweden and Switzerland (the members of the De-Alerting Group) in promoting action to lower the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems. New Zealand will resume the role of coordinator of the De-Alerting Group from 1 July 2018 and will lead the development of this year's resolution in the First Committee of the General Assembly. In adopting the most recent resolution sponsored by the Group in 2016 (resolution 71/53), the General Assembly called for further practical steps to be taken to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status and looked forward to the issue being addressed further during the next review cycle. New Zealand remains committed to progress in this area as part of a holistic approach to nuclear disarmament.

9. New Zealand remains a strong proponent of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and participates actively in the work of the

[1] Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand and South Africa.

Preparatory Commission in Vienna. New Zealand is a core sponsor, with Australia and Mexico, of a regular General Assembly resolution on the Treaty, in which the Assembly has recognized the Treaty as a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation (see General Assembly resolution 72/70).

10. Pending the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, New Zealand urges all States to acknowledge the global de facto norm against nuclear testing and to maintain the moratorium on explosive nuclear tests and refrain from testing nuclear devices or from undertaking activities that would undermine the object and purpose of the Treaty. New Zealand has publicly condemned all nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the most recent nuclear test on 3 September 2017.

11. New Zealand welcomes the monitoring and verification activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action to assure the international community of compliance with the Plan of Action by the Islamic Republic of Iran. New Zealand fully supports the Plan of Action and is providing a further contribution of $NZ 100,000 to IAEA to assist with its verification of compliance by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

12. New Zealand is deeply disappointed that sustained attempts to determine a programme of work in the Conference on Disarmament have not been successful, and that the Conference is failing to fulfil its role in progressing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. In regard to the Conference's work programme, New Zealand supports the early negotiation of a non-discriminatory, multilateral, and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, reflecting both nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives.

13. Further to article VII of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, New Zealand is a strong advocate of the role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in contributing to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. As a party to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty of 1985 (the Treaty of Rarotonga), New Zealand works to promote more engagement between States that belong to nuclear-weapon-free zones. We served as a Vice-President of the third Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia on 24 April 2015.

14. Together with Brazil, Indonesia and South Africa, New Zealand sponsors a General Assembly resolution entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas" (see General Assembly resolution 72/45). In that resolution, the Assembly recognizes the contribution of nuclear-weapon-free zones to the achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world and notes with satisfaction that all nuclear-weapon-free zones in the southern hemisphere are now in force. It also calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to withdraw any reservations or interpretive declarations contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones.

15. New Zealand welcomed the reaffirmation at the 2010 Review Conference of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review Conference and the agreement to convene a conference in 2012 on the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. It is regrettable that the Conference has still not been held. We continue to call for full implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and related agreements.

16. New Zealand fully complies with its commitments under article II of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. New Zealand's Treaty obligations are legislated in the New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament and Arms Control Act 1987.

17. Pursuant to article III of the Treaty, New Zealand has a comprehensive safeguards agreement, an additional protocol and a small quantities protocol in force with IAEA. With no nuclear weapons, no nuclear energy generation, no nuclear reactors and no production of uranium or other relevant material, New Zealand conducts only very minor activities subject to safeguards. IAEA continues to assess New Zealand as being in full compliance with all its safeguards commitments.

18. New Zealand strongly supports a system of strengthened IAEA safeguards as an essential component of the global non-proliferation regime. New Zealand believes that universal application of the integrated safeguards system, including the additional protocol, would promote collective security, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to conclude such agreements at the earliest possible date. New Zealand continues to seek opportunities to strengthen the application of nuclear safeguards and supports efforts by IAEA to develop the State-level concept as a means of increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the safeguards system.

19. New Zealand's Radiation Safety Act 2016 enables New Zealand to more effectively meet its international obligations relating to radiation protection, safety, security and nuclear non-proliferation. In addition, New Zealand has ratified the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.

20. New Zealand applies export controls to materials and dual-use goods that could be used in a nuclear weapons programme. The Government maintains cooperation and information exchanges among relevant government agencies involved in export controls and continues both domestic and international outreach in this area. The recent review of the Customs Act and moves under way to introduce domestic controls on arms brokering further strengthen the existing regime. We work actively to strengthen and coordinate international measures with other members of the Nuclear Suppliers Group and with the Zangger Committee. As a member of the Zangger Committee, New Zealand co-sponsored the working paper entitled "Procedures in relation to exports of nuclear materials and certain categories of equipment and material under article III (2) of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.12).

21. Further to article IV of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, New Zealand reaffirms the inalienable right of States parties to peaceful nuclear technology, in conformity with articles I, II and III of the Treaty, and continues to support the IAEA Peaceful Uses Initiative. It is an active participant in the IAEA Regional Cooperative Agreement for the Asia-Pacific region and also provides funding for international projects for peaceful uses. The view of New Zealand is that safeguards, safety, security and waste management should be integral parts of the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. New Zealand remains actively engaged in international efforts to strengthen nuclear safety and security, including through the Vienna-based dialogue between coastal and shipping States, the Nuclear Security Contact Group, the annual IAEA International Conferences on Nuclear Security and our contributions to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund. New Zealand will contribute another SNZ 125,000 in 2018 to the Fund.

22. New Zealand is an active member of the Vienna Group of Ten,[2] which produces working papers for the Non-Proliferation Treaty review cycle on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, compliance and verification, export controls, cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, nuclear safety and nuclear security, and discourages withdrawal from the Non-Proliferation Treaty. We co-sponsored the

[2] Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden.

composite paper and recommendations put forward by the Vienna Group of Ten to the Preparatory Committee at its 2018 session (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.5).

23. New Zealand participates in annual exercises hosted by participants in the Proliferation Security Initiative in the Asia-Pacific region. The Initiative is aimed at strengthening national, regional and international efforts to counter the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related materials. In September 2017, New Zealand participated in "Exercise Pacific Protector", hosted by Australia, and will participate in "Exercise Pacific Shield" in Japan in July 2018.

24. In IAEA and other relevant forums, New Zealand continues to actively promote the safe transport of radioactive material. New Zealand is keen to ensure that the highest possible safety standards are adopted and applied by those transporting radioactive material, that coastal and other interested States receive notification in advance of shipments and that adequate liability arrangements are in place. New Zealand continues to participate in ongoing constructive dialogue, activities and coordination between relevant coastal and shipping States.

25. New Zealand remains committed to efforts to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education. Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (www.pnnd.org) helps New Zealand parliamentarians to stay abreast of international nuclear disarmament issues and initiatives through its regular updates and events at the Inter-Parliamentary Union Assemblies. The New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs gives regular briefings to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and endeavours to include NGO participants in relevant United Nations disarmament meetings. We included three New Zealand NGOs in the delegation of New Zealand to the negotiations on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

26. The Government of New Zealand has established two funds to support a wide range of disarmament and peace education activities. The Disarmament Education UN Implementation Fund helps to fund citizen groups to implement the recommendations of the 2002 United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education. The Peace and Disarmament Education Trust provides postgraduate scholarships and grants for projects with charitable purposes that support the promotion of international peace, arms control and disarmament through education. Other projects partially funded using these funds include the creation of Peace Cities; museum exhibitions; relevant internships; peace libraries; the production of educational material for schools, journalists and university students; and visits by leading disarmament experts.

27. Peace Movement Aotearoa is the national networking peace organization. It has extensive national networks, a comprehensive website (www.converge.org.nz/pma) and a Facebook page. It provides national coordination, publishes resources and updates, and circulates the statements of New Zealand for the national campaigns of a number of global humanitarian disarmament campaigns, including the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Aotearoa New Zealand. Peace Movement Aotearoa promotes activities to mark key dates, including Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Day, Global Day of Action on Military Spending, International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament, International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, International Day of Peace, and Hiroshima and Nagasaki days. It regularly reports to United Nations human rights bodies, raising disarmament issues whenever possible as part of its work to strengthen the links between disarmament and human rights.

28. The Peace Foundation (www.peace.net.nz), based in Auckland, provides a range of resources and activity ideas for peace education in schools nationally and globally. It also organizes the annual Schools' Peace Week event to commemorate the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In 2017, a total of 135 schools from across

New Zealand, as well as Australia, India, Kazakhstan, Germany, Burkina Faso, Kenya and Burundi, participated in Schools' Peace Week. The theme for 2017 was "Aotearoa New Zealand: 30 Years Nuclear Free". The Foundation also offers presentations to schools entitled "Responding to armed conflict", which cover topics such as nuclear disarmament, the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, disarmament and development. The website www.nuclearfreenz30.org.nz also hosts educational material for social studies and history teachers and students about nuclear disarmament-related topics currently being taught in a number of schools.

29. The Disarmament and Security Centre (www.disarmsecure.org) in Christchurch provides a national peace and disarmament resource centre. The Centre's main activities include providing publicly accessible information on disarmament and peace issues through its website and physical library resources, speaking to university and community groups, research and advocacy, and training young people through its internship programme.

30. UN Youth New Zealand (unyouth.org.nz) is a non-profit organization aimed at fostering global citizenship that provides civics education for high school and tertiary students. Annually, over 3,000 young New Zealanders across the country attend a UN Youth event, including workshops, Model United Nations, international study tours and outreach events. UN Youth hosts two conferences nationally each year drawing together hundreds of students from across the country. An online diplomacy competition is also available for all high school students across New Zealand to help them to further develop their understanding of these issues. Through their conferences and initiatives, young people are encouraged to critically evaluate issues such as the use of nuclear technology and weaponry.

31. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Aotearoa (www.wilpf.org.nz) promotes disarmament through its involvement in the Aotearoa New Zealand Campaign on Military Spending, the Aotearoa New Zealand Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, the Aotearoa New Zealand Joint Working Group on Cluster Munitions and Landmines, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Aotearoa New Zealand and White Poppies for Peace; and by publicizing international WILPF initiatives and resources, especially those produced by Reaching Critical Will and PeaceWomen, through its email lists and Facebook page. WILPF Aotearoa organizes regular peace vigils throughout each year and Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemorations every August.

32. Unfold Zero (www.unfoldzero.org) is a project of PragueVision, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, the Basel Peace Office, the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign, Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace and the Global Security Institute. It provides conference calls, email updates and social media promotion related to nuclear disarmament. Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons also informs NGOs about the wide range of nuclear abolition initiatives around the world through its website (www.abolition2000.org), Facebook page and newsletters.